US Army Corps
of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

South Atlantic Regional Drought/Water Management Communications Update

Drought 2007/2008

29 January 2008

US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

Drought Conference Call

13:30 EST

AGENDA

Current Situation

- Weather Outlook – Rob Erhardt
  - Drought Outlook for SE
- Regional view of watersheds – Chris Smith
- Media review – Nanciann Regalado
- FEMA and/ USACE PL 84-99 authorities/missions – Steve Premo

Mission/Execution

- Water Management Plan/Actions
  - Districts Status/issues: (briefed by Districts)

Staff Updates

- Security Issues/Concerns – Craig Solyntjes
- Safety Issues/Concerns – Gary King
- Office of Counsel – Neil Purcell
- Resource Management – Pat Roberts
- Operations/Regulatory – Susan Whittington
- Media Talking Points – Nanciann Regalado
- Next Actions (Issues review)

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Current Conditions and Outlook

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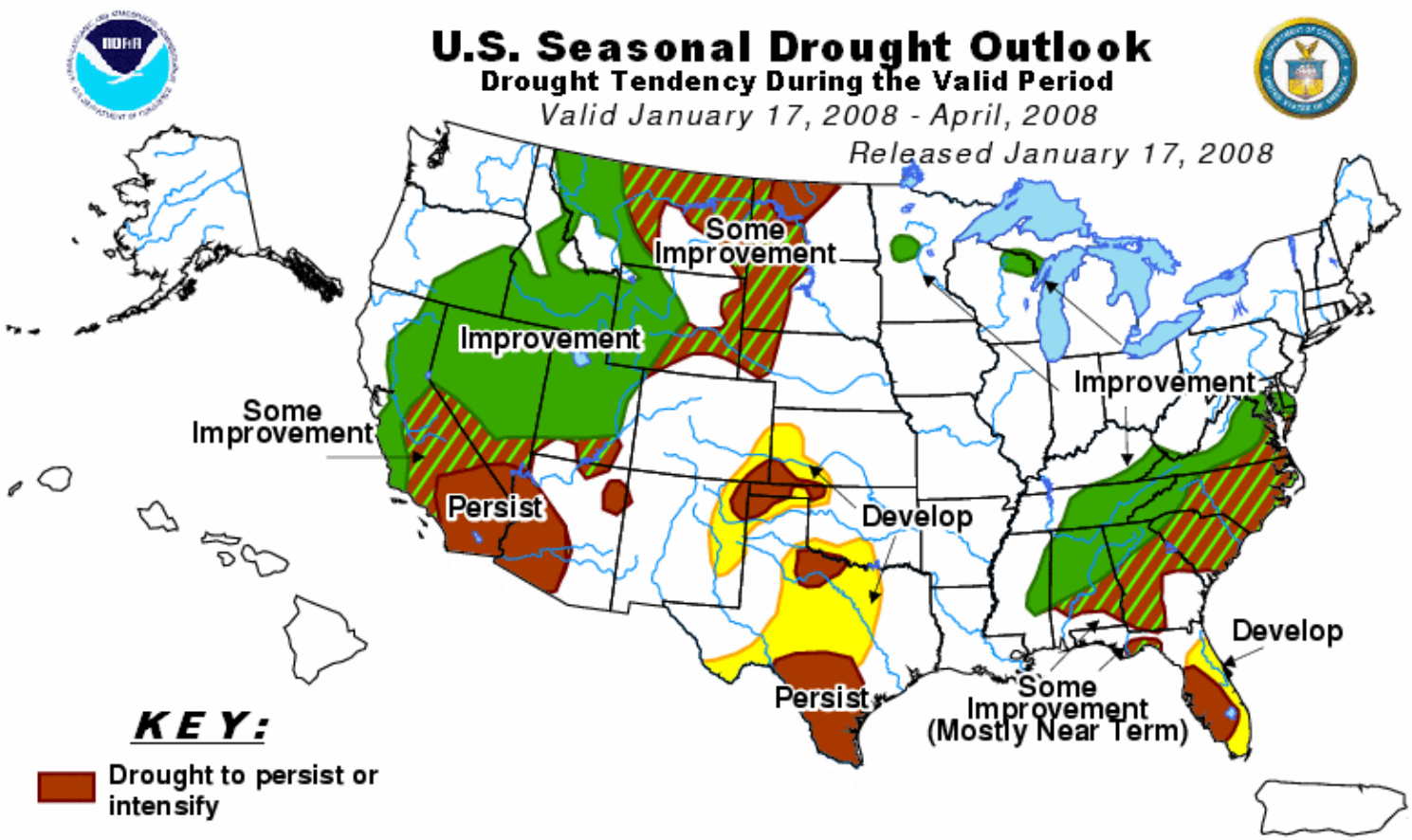
Seasonal Drought Conditions for US



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.

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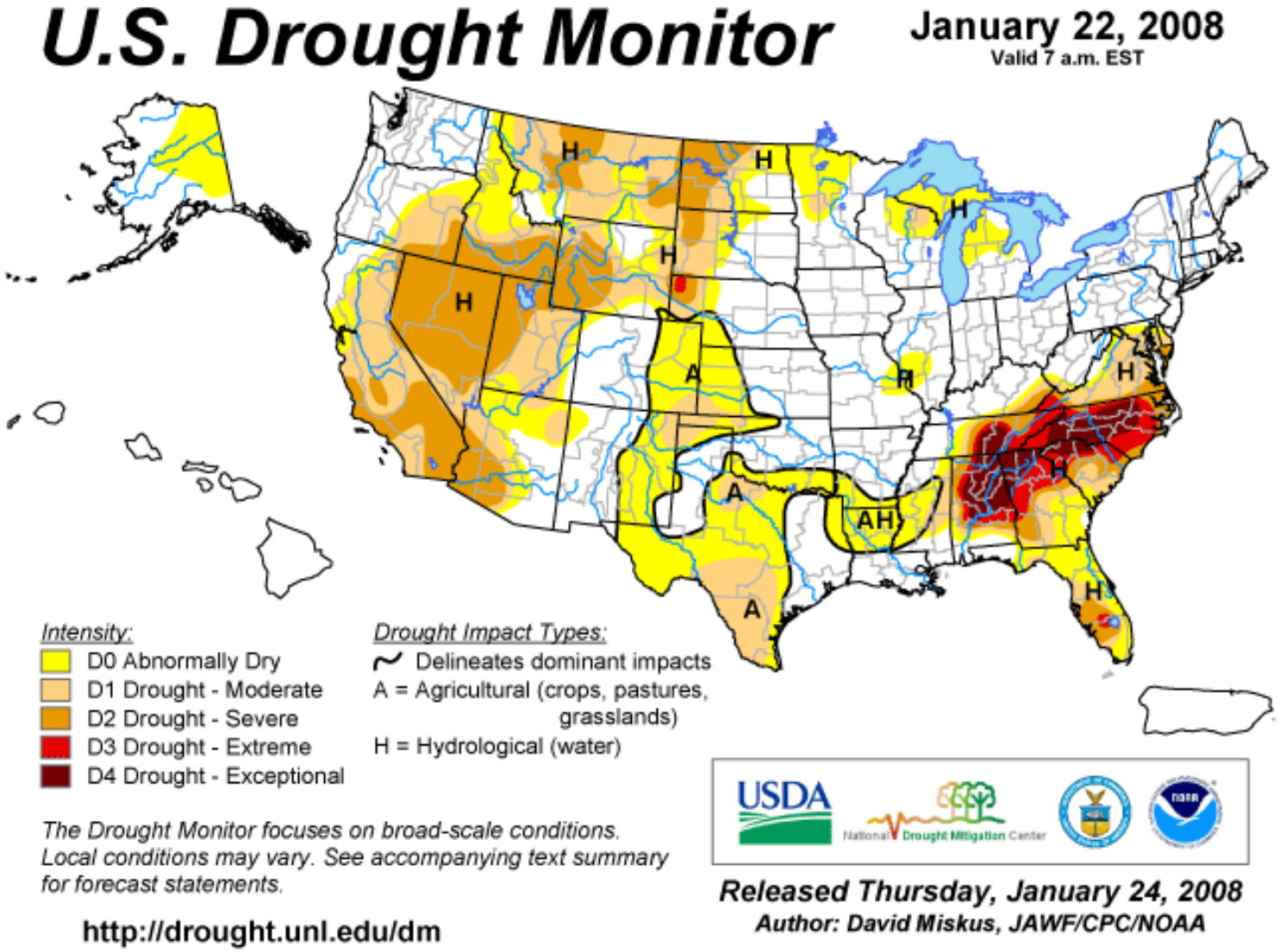
Drought Conditions for U.S.


U.S. Drought Monitor
January 22, 2008
Valid 7 a.m. EST
Intensity:
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Drought - Moderate
D2 Drought - Severe
D3 Drought - Extreme
D4 Drought - Exceptional
Drought Impact Types:
Delineates dominant impacts
A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
H = Hydrological (water)
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.
http://drought.unl.edu/dm
USDA
National Drought Mitigation Center
Released Thursday, January 24, 2008
Author: David Miskus, JAWF/CPC/NOAA

http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.htm

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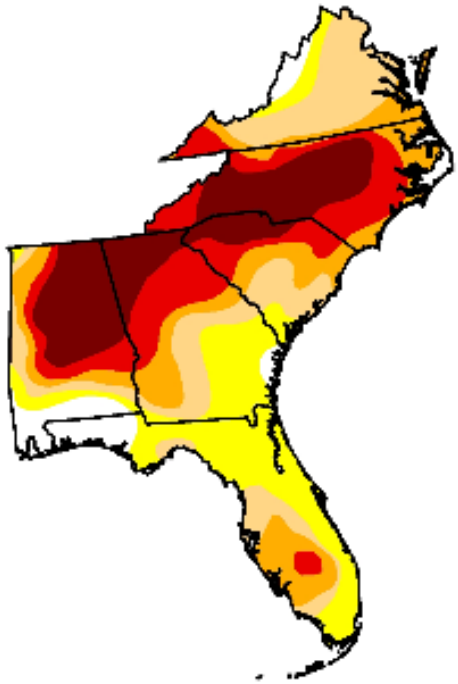
Drought Conditions for Southeast

U.S. Drought Monitor
Southeast

January 22, 2008
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	6.3	93.7	73.8	54.5	37.4	20.2
Last Week (01/15/2008 map)	3.9	96.1	75.9	58.5	40.4	20.2
3 Months Ago (10/30/2007 map)	14.8	85.2	66.7	46.3	31.3	18.5
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)	9.6	90.4	74.3	58.5	41.0	22.0
Start of Water Year (10/02/2007 map)	10.1	89.9	77.9	63.8	45.2	24.0
One Year Ago (01/23/2007 map)	74.2	25.8	11.2	3.2	0.0	0.0



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Current Weather Situation and Forecasts

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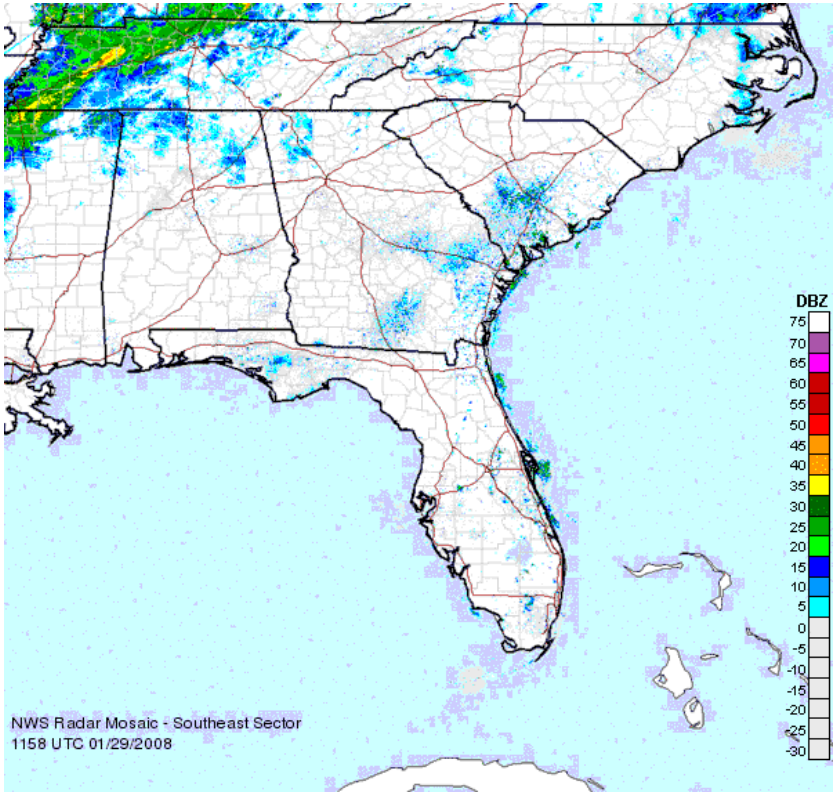
Current Weather Conditions
29 January 2008



National Weather Service Enhanced Radar Image

A potent cold front will press toward the Mississippi Valley on Tuesday. A surge of mild, moist air ahead of that front will allow thunderstorms. Some of these storms will become strong or severe with energy from the jet stream overhead. The greatest threats will include strong and damaging winds and some hail. A few tornadoes cannot be ruled out with the intensity of the cold front triggering the storms.

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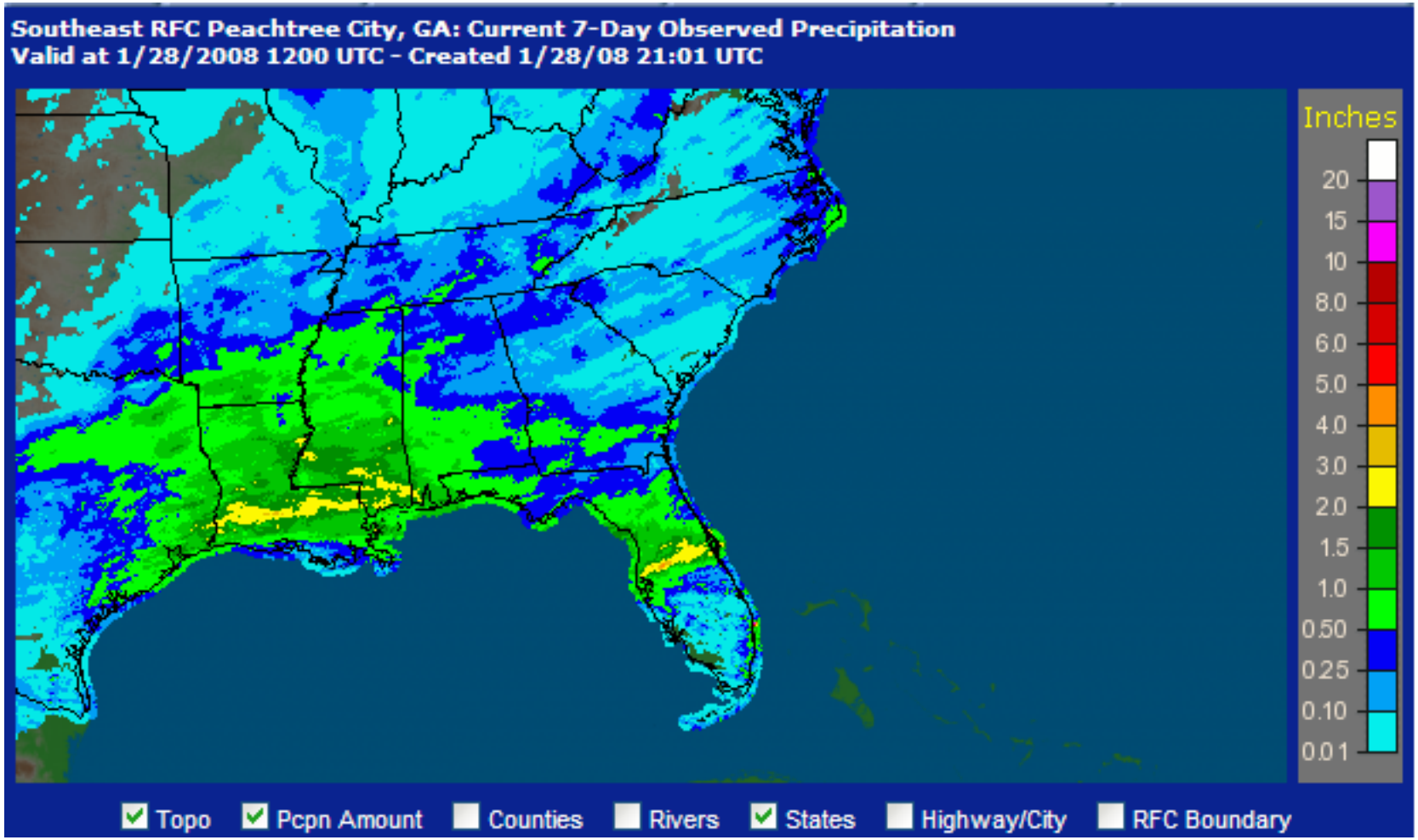
Measured Precipitation – Last 7 days



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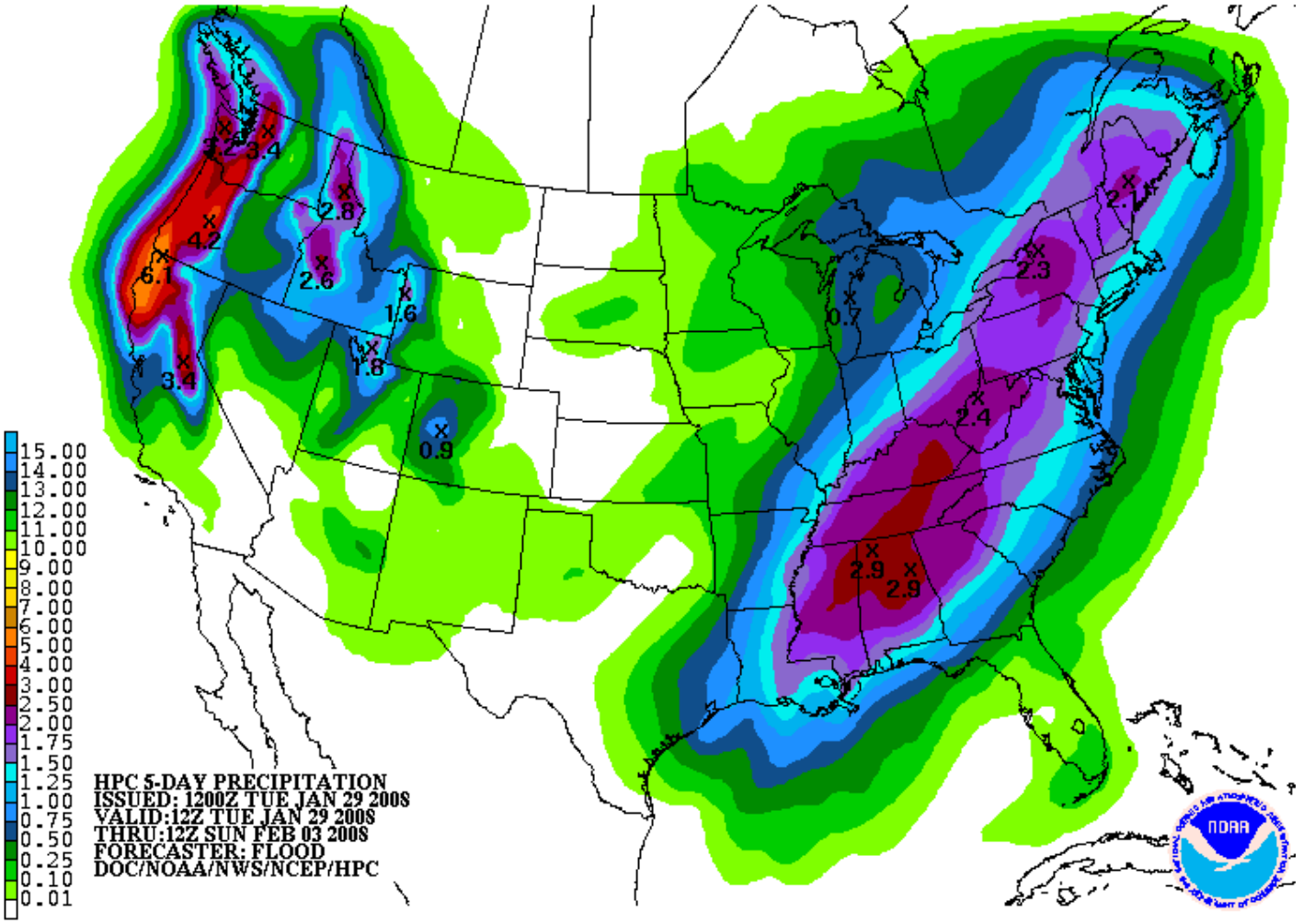
5 Day Rainfall Projections



http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-5.shtml

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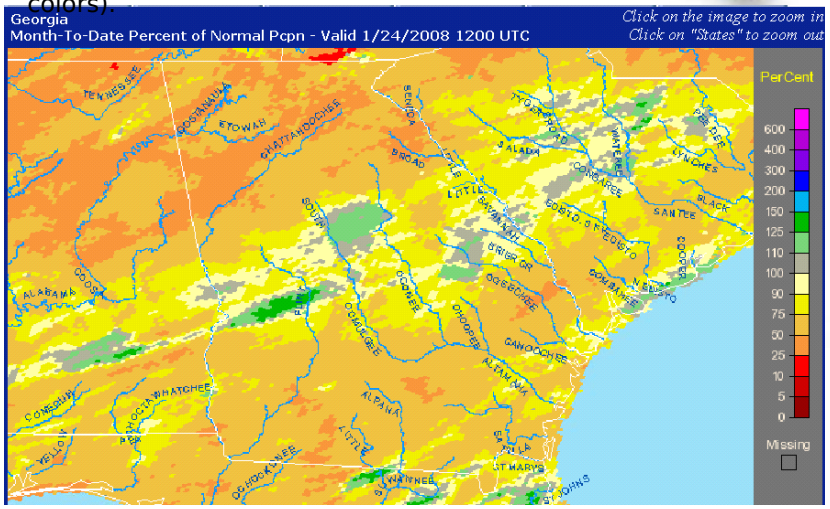
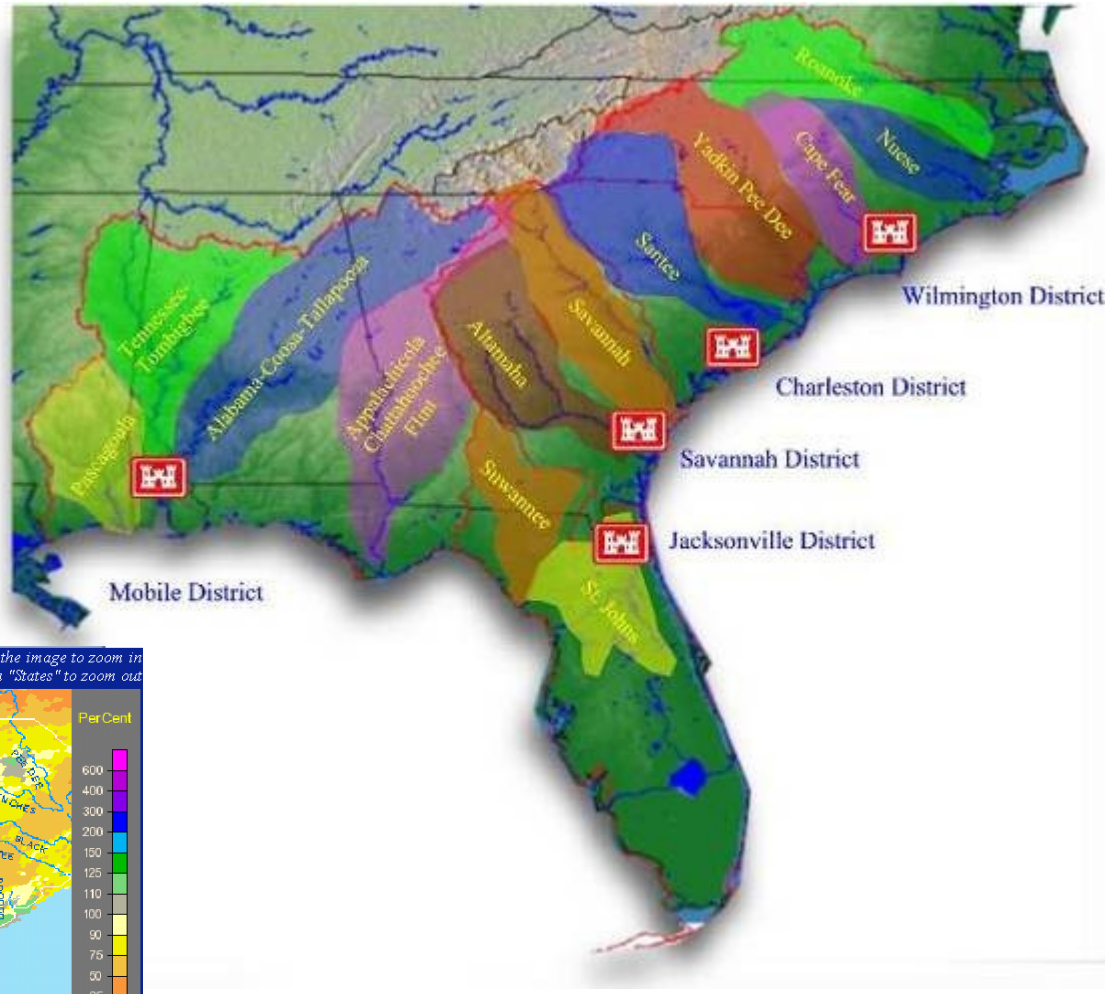
Regional View of Watersheds
As of Jan 25 2008

Significant Items:

Although we are now in the typical wet season for the ACF-ACT, Savannah River, and rivers in eastern NC, conditions have not improved, and in fact may have worsened. An analysis of the inflows into the basins for 2007 provides an indication of the severity of the drought. The following table shows the actual inflows into the ACF for 4-month periods along with a ranking (where a rank of 1 means driest for the period of record).

Conditions in January have shown no significant improvement in the headwater projects as compared to the end of 2007. The following graph shows rainfall in 2008 as compared with normal. As can be seen, the headwater projects in north Georgia and SC have received from 25 to 75 percent of normal rainfall so far this year (orange colors).





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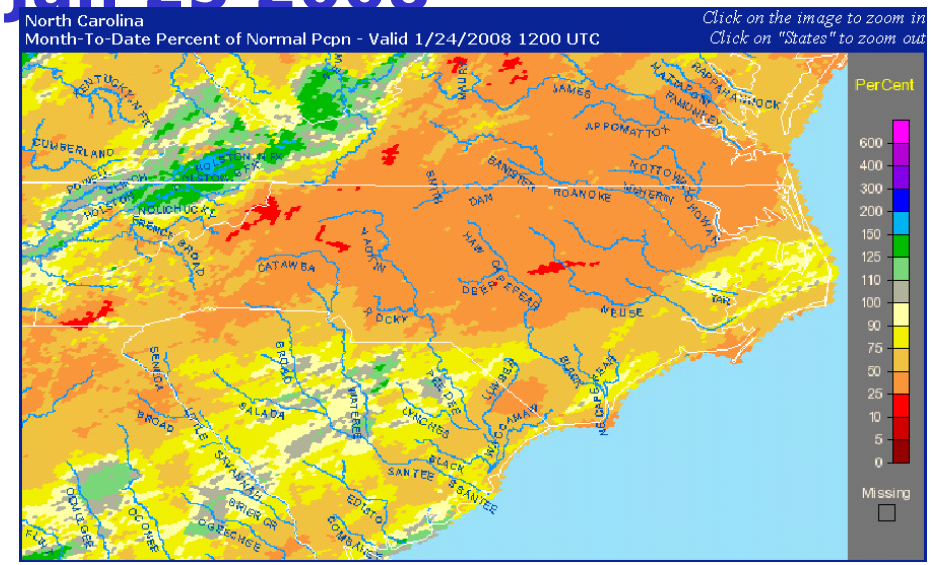
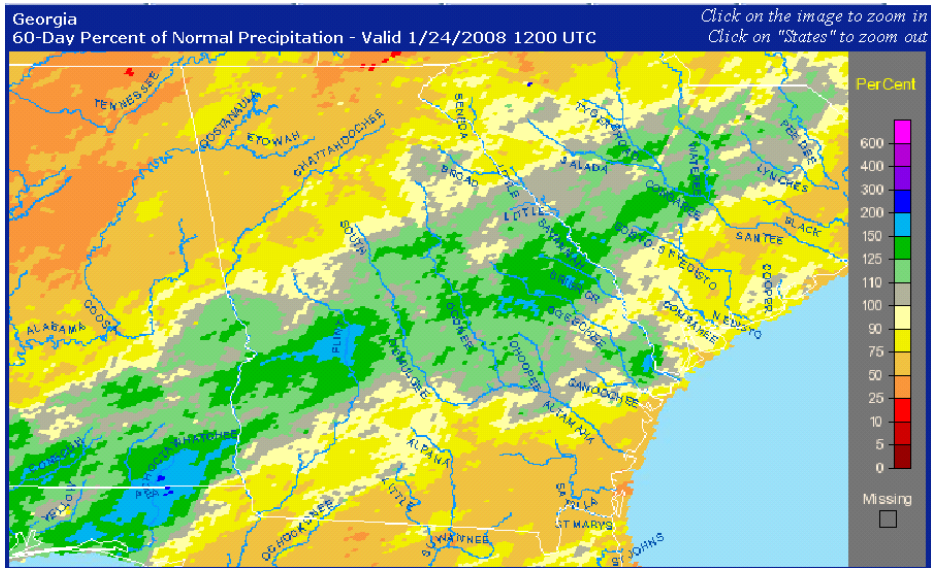
Regional View of Watersheds (cont'd)
As of Jan 25 2008

Similar dry conditions have existed for Wilmington's projects in late 2007 and early 2008. Inflows into Falls currently are about 4% of normal and into Jordan about 10% of normal. Below is a graph of rainfall as compared to normal (percent) for the state of North Carolina.



Conditions on the lower ACF have allowed both West Point and WF George to fill to their winter pool. As compared to Lanier, these lakes have much larger drainage basins and West Point Lake is significantly smaller than Lanier. Also, as shown in the following graph some area in the lower ACF have actually received above normal rainfall for the past 60 days **(green area)**.



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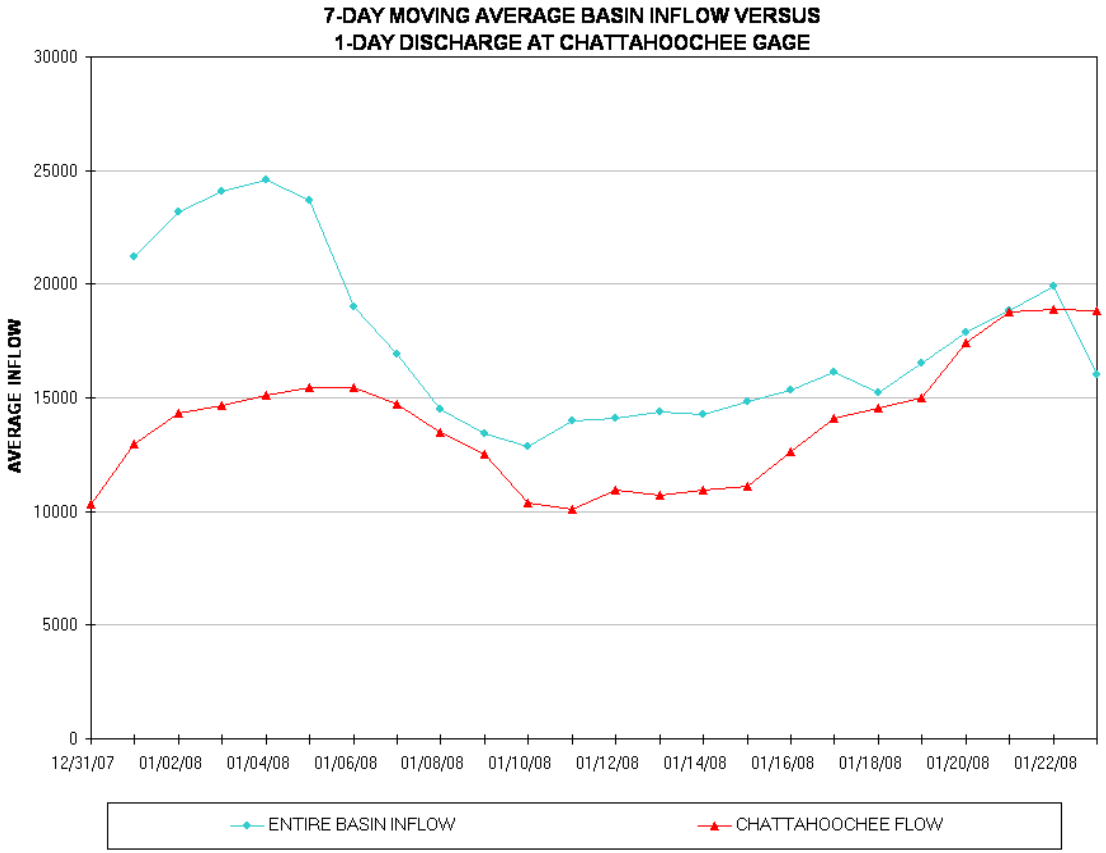
Impacts on Water Supply

Consequently, the required flow on the lower ACF has been maintained by local inflows to the system below Lanier and no water has been released from Lanier for the specific purpose of meeting this flow requirement for two months. The operating strategy for the ACF system continues to be the environmental flow below Jim Woodruff of 4750 cfs. Even with continued dry conditions, the lower ACF will most likely continue to "carry" the lower river requirement through the April/early May timeframe and no releases will likely be necessary from the storage projects to meet this requirement until at least the May timeframe, as shown in the following chart:

Count of Avg ACF Inflows less than stated value (out of 61)

	<5000	<10,000
April	0	0
May	1	6
June	3	11
July	6	18
August	6	24



Inflows into the ACF basin are shown in the graph above

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South Atlantic Division

Water Management Plan/Actions

- DHS/FEMA/States
- Charleston District
- Jacksonville District
- Mobile District
- Savannah District
- Wilmington District

US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

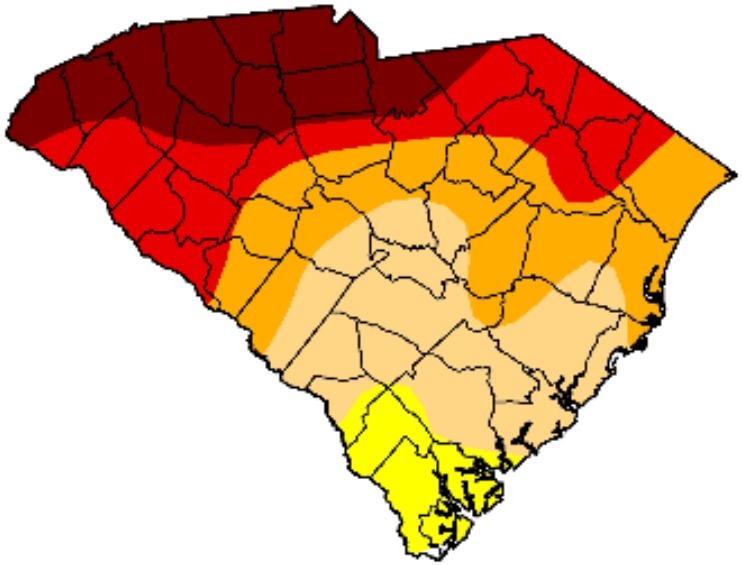
Charleston District

U.S. Drought Monitor
South Carolina

January 22, 2008
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.2	99.8	92.8	67.4	41.9	19.5
Last Week (01/15/2008 map)	0.0	100.0	95.3	76.5	41.9	19.5
3 Months Ago (10/30/2007 map)	0.0	100.0	93.3	79.1	51.0	25.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)	1.0	99.0	95.3	76.5	41.9	19.5
Start of Water Year (10/02/2007 map)	9.9	90.1	82.0	65.6	42.7	18.3
One Year Ago (01/23/2007 map)	95.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0



Intensity:

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- D1 Drought - Moderate
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The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

http://drought.unl.edu/dm

USDA National Drought Mitigation Center

Released Thursday, January 24, 2008

Author: David Miskus, JAWF/CPC/NOAA

US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

Jacksonville District

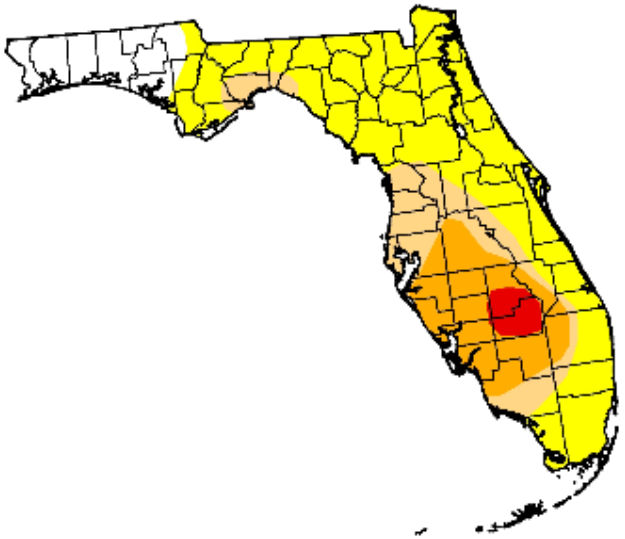
SAJ/South Florida: Lake Okeechobee's current elevation of 10.12 feet is about
1.7 feet below last year's and about 4.6 feet below the long term average for this
day.

U.S. Drought Monitor
Florida

January 22, 2008
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	11.1	88.9	34.5	19.4	2.6	0.0
Last Week (01/15/2008 map)	8.2	91.8	37.6	19.7	2.6	0.0
3 Months Ago (10/30/2007 map)	45.3	54.7	17.4	4.6	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)	31.8	68.2	33.1	19.7	2.6	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/02/2007 map)	20.8	79.2	44.2	22.0	9.1	0.0
One Year Ago (01/23/2007 map)	19.4	80.6	53.3	16.0	0.0	0.0



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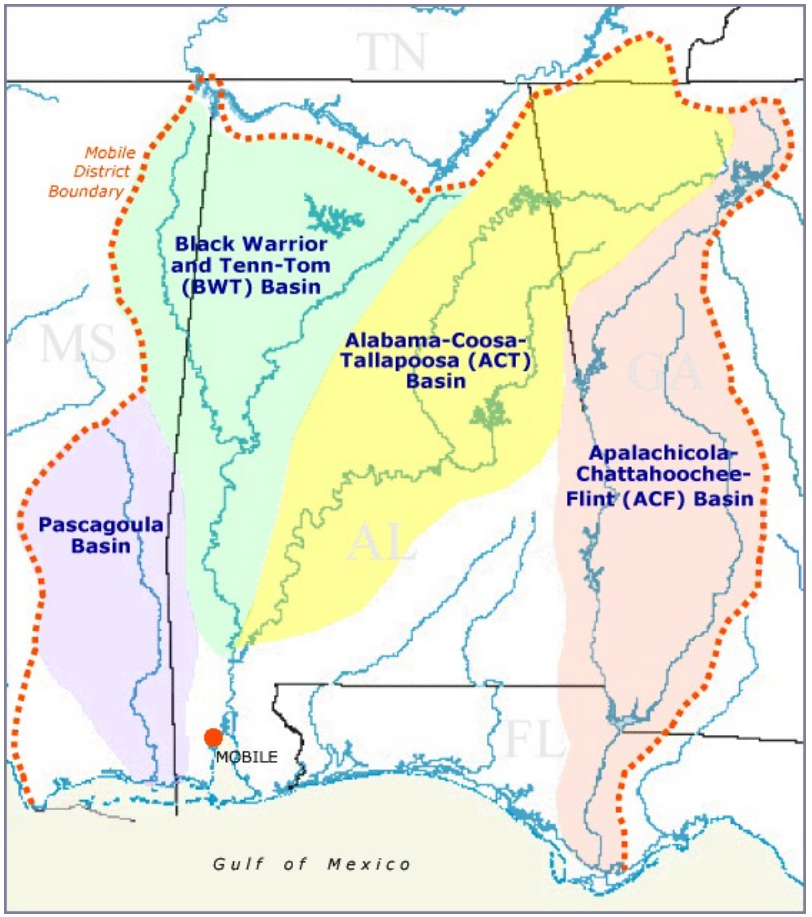
http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/h2o/lib/documents/drought/index.html

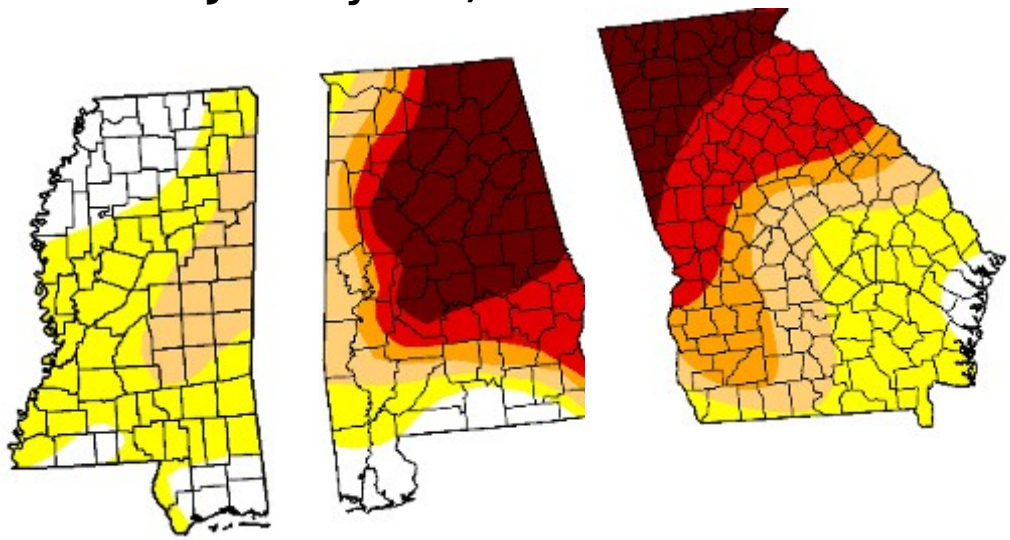
US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

Mobile District

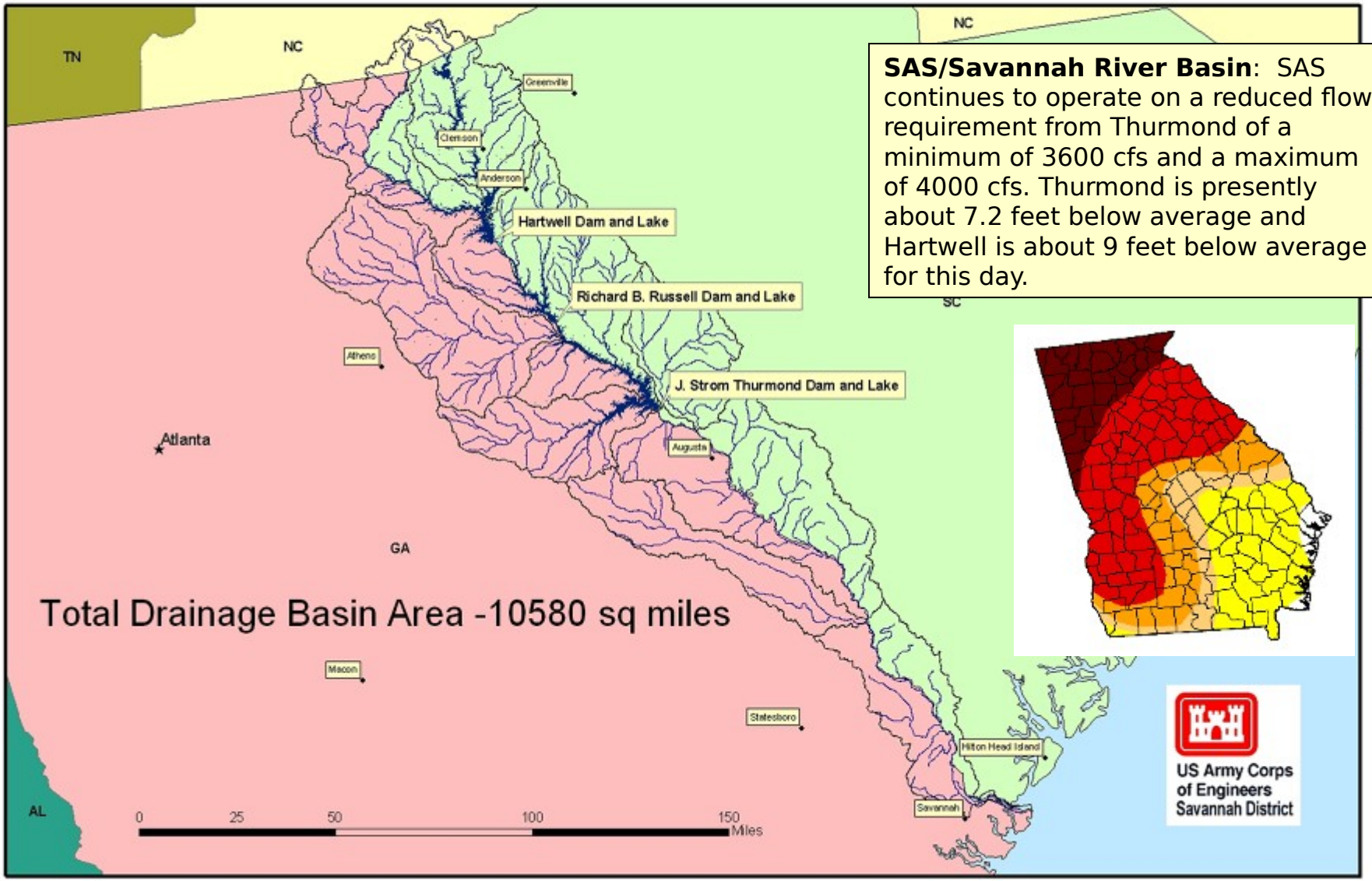
SAM/Georgia, Alabama, & Mississippi:
- ACF: The water level at Lake Lanier is in Action Zone 4. At West Point and WF George the lakes are in Zone 1. The lowest zone (zone 4) controls the operation on the ACF and in Zone 4 navigation is not supported; hydropower demands met at minimum level and may only occur for concurrent uses; water supply and water quality releases are met; and minimum flow targets are met.
- ACT: Hydropower production at Allatoona was reduced to the station service unit as of the first of December.



January 22nd, 2008



The Savannah River Basin



SAS/Savannah River Basin: SAS continues to operate on a reduced flow requirement from Thurmond of a minimum of 3600 cfs and a maximum of 4000 cfs. Thurmond is presently about 7.2 feet below average and Hartwell is about 9 feet below average for this day.

US Army Corps of Engineers
Savannah District

US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

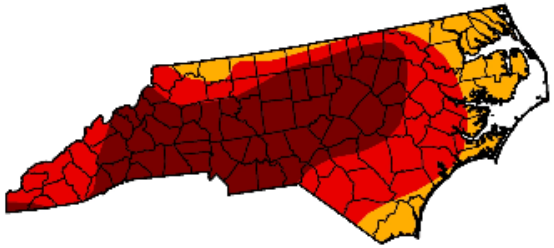
Wilmington District

U.S. Drought Monitor
North Carolina

January 22, 2008
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	81.7	46.0
Last Week (01/15/2008 map)	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	83.5	46.0
3 Months Ago (10/30/2007 map)	0.0	100.0	100.0	72.9	37.8	12.9
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	83.7	51.3
Start of Water Year (10/02/2007 map)	0.0	100.0	100.0	92.8	79.4	37.7
One Year Ago (01/23/2007 map)	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0



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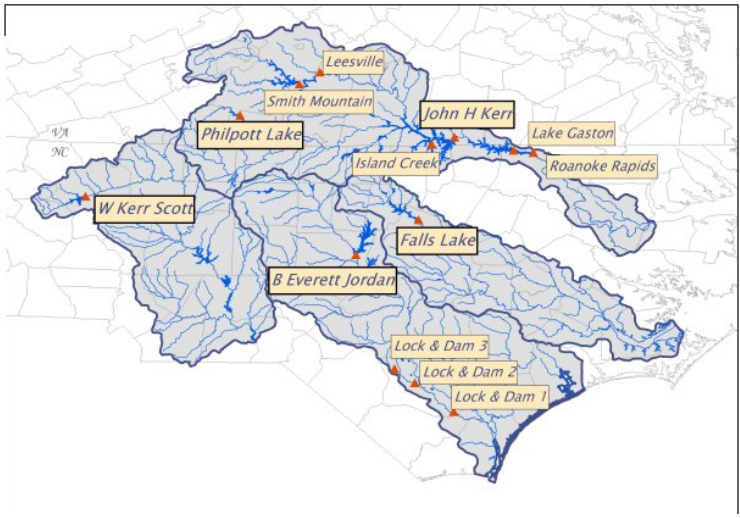

SAW/North Carolina: North Carolina continues to experience serious drought conditions with Falls Dam watershed being hit the worst.

SAW's reservoir levels remain constant (Falls @ 242.85 ft, and Jordan @ 214.56 ft). Raleigh has 113 days of water supply remaining and Durham has 129 days remaining.

Duke Energy, Charlotte, NC issued a press release stating that, "with more than 6 inches of rain across the Catawba-Wateree basin since mid-December 2007 and continued conservation, Duke Energy anticipates that tougher water restrictions would NOT be needed before August 2008...It was previously estimated that stage 4 drought condition triggers could be met in February 2008.

US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

Headquarters Atlanta Staff Updates

- Security – Craig Solyntjes
- Safety – Gary King
- Office of Counsel – Neil Purcell
- Resource Management – Pat Roberts
- Operations/Regulatory – Susan Whittington

US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

Status of FEMA Actions

Georgia State request for a Stafford Act declaration for drought conditions remains “in process” at FEMA HQ.

US Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division

Next Actions

- Continue Working Regional Communications Plans
- Continue Working Water Management Contingency Plans
- Continue Weekly Communications Conference Calls
- Continue monitoring Reservoir and Project Status

Future Planning

Source: Homeland Security

- Governors complete the *Tri-State Drought Plan* by 2/15/2008.
- USACE will forward the *Tri-State Drought Plan* to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for an amended biological opinion to be provided by 3/15/2008.

US Army Corps
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South Atlantic Division

Commander's Guidance